

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
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FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
SECSTATE WASHDC 8366

UNCLAS KUALA LUMPUR 5109

USIAC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: ASEAN SUMMIT

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF OPENING STATEMENT BY MALAYSIAN PRIME MINISTER
DATUK HUSSEIN ONN AT THE ASEAN SUMMIT MEETING AUGUST 4:

2. "TEN YEARS AGO IN 1967, A DECLARATION WAS SIGNED IN BANGKOK WHICH
ESTABLISHED THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS. TODAY, THE
ASEAN HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEET IN KUALA LUMPUR TO COMMEMORATE THE
OCCASION. THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ASEAN WAS BOLD AND FAR-SIGHTED
EXPERIMENT. NO ONE AT THAT TIME COULD BE SURE OR FORESEE HOW IT
WOULD DEVELOP, OR INDEED WHETHER IT WOULD SURVIVE AT ALL.
THE FACT THAT THE ASSOCIATION HAS WITHSTOOD THE TRIALS AND
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TRIBULATIONS DURING THE LAST TEN YEARS, INDICATES CLEARLY
THE SPIRIT, CONFIDENCE AND DETERMINATION WITH WHICH ITS
MEMBERS ARE IMBUED. THE IRRESISTABLE FORCE WHICH DROVE
US TO ESTABLISH ASEAN WAS OUR CONSUMING DESIRE TO LAY A
FIRM FOUNDATION FOR COMMON ACTION TO PROMOTE REGIONAL CO-
OPERATION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, IN THE SPIRIT OF EQUALITY AND
PARTNERSHIP, AND THUS CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS PEACE, PROGRESS

AND PROSPERITY IN THE REGION.

3. "IN FEBRUARY 1976, THE ASEAN HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MET IN BALI. THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME IN THE HISTORY OF THE ASSOCIATION THAT A MEETING AT THAT LEVEL WAS EVER HELD. AT THAT MEETING: (A) THE ACTIVITIES OF ASEAN SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT WERE REVIEWED. (B) DEVELOPMENTS AFFECTING THE ASEAN REGION WERE DISCUSSED. (C) A REAFFIRMATION TO CONTINUE TO WORK FOR THE PROMOTION OF PEACE, STABILITY AND PROGRESS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, WAS MADE. (D) EFFORTS TOWARDS THE EARLY ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ZONE OF PEACE, FREEDOM AND NEUTRALITY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, WOULD BE CONTINUED. (E) THE TREATY OF AMITY AND COOPERATION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AND THE DECLARATION OF ASEAN CONCORD, WERE SIGNED. SO WAS THE AGREEMENT ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ASEAN SECRETARIAT. (F) LAST BUT BY NO MEANS LEAST, DIRECTIONS TO ECONOMIC MINISTERS TO CONSIDER MEASURES TO IMPLEMENT DECISIONS ON MATTERS OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION, WERE GIVEN.

4. "TODAY, THE ASEAN HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEET AGAIN, LESS THAN 18 MONTHS AFTER THE BALI SUMMIT. THIS IS VERY SIGNIFICANT. IN BETWEEN THE TWO SUMMITS, MUCH WORK HAS BEEN DONE TO PUT INTO EFFECT THE DECISIONS TAKEN AT BALI. AT THIS SUMMIT, THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT WILL MAKE FURTHER DECISIONS ON A NUMBER OF ISSUES TO ACCELERATE IMPLEMENTATION AND RESOLVE ANY PROBLEMS. THIS SUMMIT IS A BUSINESS SUMMIT.

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THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT GET TOGETHER TO REVIEW, DISCUSS AND MAKE DECISIONS. THE WELFARE AND PROSPERITY OF THEIR PEOPLES DEPEND ON WHAT THEY CAN ACHIEVE AND ON THEIR LEADERSHIP.

5. "YOUR EXCELLENCIES, MALAYSIA IS PRIVILEGED AND HONORED TO HAVE BEEN SELECTED AS THE HOST COUNTRY FOR THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ASEAN AND THE MEETING OF THE SECOND ASEAN SUMMIT. ON BEHALF OF HIS MAJESTY THE YANG DIPERTUAN AGONG, THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF MALAYSIA, I WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND TO YOUR EXCELLENCIES THE ASEAN HEADS OF GOVERNMENT, A VERY WARM AND CORDIAL WELCOME. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO CONVEY THE SAME SENTIMENT TO THE MINISTERS AND OFFICIALS. I HOPE THAT YOUR STAY IN KUALA LUMPUR ON THIS IMPORTANT OCCASION, WILL BE A PLEASANT AND MEMORABLE ONE. THERE WILL NO DOUBT BE SHORTCOMING AND OMISSIONS IN OUR PREPARATIONS. SHOULD THERE BE ANY, I HOPE YOU WOULD PARDON US.

6. "LASTLY, MAY I REITERATE THAT MALAYSIA HAS ALWAYS BELIEVED IN PEACE AND COOPERATION. IT HAS GREAT FAITH AND HIGH HOPES IN ASEAN. THE ROAD TOWARDS ACHIEVING ASEAN'S NOBLE AIMS AND PURPOSES WILL NOT BE SMOOTH AND EASY; THIS

IS TO BE EXPECTED. NEVERTHELESS, ASEAN HAS COME A LONG WAY TO BE WHAT IT IS NOW, A VIABLE, PRAGMATIC AND RESPECTED ORGANIZATION. ITS DESTINY AND POTENTIALLY ARE IN THE HANDS OF ITS MEMBERS. ITS MEMBERS HAVE NEVER LACKED GOOD-WILL, DETERMINATION AND PERSEVERANCE. THESE ARE ASEAN'S GREATEST ASSETS.

7. "YOUR EXCELLENCIES, WITH YOUR PERMISSION, AND WITH THE BLESSINGS OF GOD ALMIGHTY, I HEREBY DECLARE THE MEETING OF ASEAN HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALLY OPEN." ITEM.

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